

## Pathways Program

- Program Purpose:** To act as a catalyst between business and education in developing cooperative training projects that provide training, new jobs and career paths for individuals who are at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines or those who are making the transition from public assistance to the workforce.
- How It Works:** Grants are awarded to eligible applicants with businesses as partners.
- Eligible Applicants:** Accredited public and/or private educational institutions and workforce development intermediaries partnering with businesses within the state are eligible. Workforce development intermediaries are defined as public, private or nonprofit entities that provide employment services to low-income individuals. Preference will be given to projects that provide full-time employment with benefits and projects with defined career paths. Further preference will be given to projects that demonstrate the active participation of local human service agencies or nonprofit organizations that provide employment and training services.
- Minimum Requirements:** All projects must have at least one educational institution and one business working together. A cash or in-kind contribution from the participating business(es) must match Pathways funds on at least a one-half-to-one ratio.
- Eligible Projects:** Funds may be used for training-related costs or educational infrastructure improvements necessary to support businesses located or intending to locate in Minnesota. Funds may also be used to partner with local human service agencies or nonprofit organizations that are providing training-related services.
- Ineligible Activities:** Requests for wage subsidies and tuition reimbursements are not eligible.
- Maximum Available:** Up to \$400,000 of Pathways funds per grant can be awarded for a project. A "Short Form" application is available for grants of \$50,000 or less, to assist smaller businesses in getting the customized training they need.
- Terms:** The grant agreement must be executed within 90-days from the date of the award or the award becomes null and void.
- Application Accepted:** Applications are accepted on a year-round basis through a grant application process. Grants, pending the availability of funding, are generally approved two to three times per year. Current application deadlines are posted on our Web site at [www.deed.state.mn.us/mjsp](http://www.deed.state.mn.us/mjsp) and published in the "State Register."
- Approving Authority:** Minnesota Job Skills Partnership Board.
- Disbursement of Funds:** Costs are paid on a reimbursement basis.
- Contact:** To request additional information or a grant application, please contact the Minnesota Job Skills Partnership at 651-259-7514 or visit our Web site at [www.deed.state.mn.us/mjsp](http://www.deed.state.mn.us/mjsp).



### MINNESOTA JOB SKILLS PARTNERSHIP

*...promoting cooperative ventures between business, labor and education*

#### Department of Employment and Economic Development

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